# Welcome to Leesburg!

Leesburg has it all! A smart and talented workforce, an authentic sense of place and an inspiring, progressive community are what move Leesburg, Virginia forward. When you locate your business in Loudoun County's largest town and county seat you will find a real hometown of the 21st century.

Close to 50% of our population has a bachelor's degree or higher, 40% of us are between the ages of 20 and 44, are highly diversified and live in households with an average household income of \$114,349. Within the Town limits there are nearly 15,000 households and a population of approximately 46,000.

Leesburg's sense of place is unmatched. You will often meet your friends and neighbors in any one of the distinguished restaurants or shops and find people you know gathering for live music throughout the Town. Additionally, your family will appreciate Leesburg's abundant and well-equipped parks and trails.

Located just 20 minutes from Dulles International Airport and near what will soon be the terminus of the Metro Silver Line, Leesburg is nestled in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains and ideally located between the urban east and the rural west, at the heart of dining, arts and DC's Wine Country. The Leesburg Executive Airport offers first class general aviation services.

Your Economic Development team is the 'Start here" in business development and works hard for you every day. We're available to assist you with; location assistance, workforce resources, business connections and marketplace information because we know that your business success is a 'win' for the community.

Welcome to Leesburg, Hometown of the 21st Century!

Sincerely,

Marantha D. Edwards, CMSM
Director Economic Development
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703.737.7019

www.leesburgva.gov/business www.facebook.com/leesburgEDC



# Demographic Snapshot

	Town of Leesburg	Loudoun County
Population & Households  • Population (Jul 2013 Census Bureau Estimate)	47,673	349,679
<ul> <li>Population (Apr 2014 Loudoun County Estimate)</li> <li>Households (Apr 2014 Loudoun County Estimate)</li> </ul>	43,996 14,894	351,611 117,117
Average Household Size	3.08	3.08
Income		
<ul><li>Average Household</li><li>Median Household</li><li>Per Capita</li></ul>	\$118,218 \$104,203 \$38,422	\$149,631 \$131,775 \$45,608
Racial & Ethnic Distribution		
White, Not Hispanic	60.3%	60.5%
Hispanic (Any Race)      Reals New Hispanic	20.6% 7.8%	12.9% 7.2%
<ul><li>Black, Not Hispanic</li><li>Asian</li></ul>	7.6 <i>%</i> 8.1%	15.6%
Other, including Two or More Races	3.2%	3.8%
Foreign Born Population		
Foreign Born	23.1%	22.8%
Speak 2 or More Languages Proficiently	16.6%	19.6%
Age Distribution		
• 19 and under	30.2%	32.2%
<ul><li>20 - 44</li><li>45 - 64</li></ul>	37.3% 26.1%	35.7% 24.8%
<ul><li>45 - 64</li><li>65 and older</li></ul>	26.1% 6.4%	24.8% 7.3%
Median Age	33.8	35.1
Educational Attainment (age 25 & over)		
High School Graduate or higher	89.3%	93.7%
Bachelor's Degree or higher	47.8%	56.6%
Graduate or Professional Degree	17.4%	22.4%

Sources: Loudoun County Department of Planning & Zoning, U.S. Census Bureau (2011-2013 ACS)

Data may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

**Updated: December 2014** 

Town of Leesburg Economic Development 202 Church Street SE • Leesburg VA 20175 (703) 737-7019 • www.leesburgva.com



# Household Statistics

	Town of Leesburg	Loudoun County
Population & Households		County
Population (2014 Estimate)	43,996	351,611
Households (2014 Estimate)	14,894	117,117
Types of Households		
• Families	74.0%	77.5%
<ul> <li>Families With Children Under 18</li> </ul>	43.6%	46.9%
Single Person Households	18.2%	17.5%
• Other	7.8%	5.0%
Average Household Size	3.08	3.08
Average Family Size	3.55	3.49
Average Fairing Size	5.55	21.17
Income		
Median Household	\$104,203	\$131,775
Median Family	\$118,218	\$149,631
Per Capita	\$38,422	\$45,608
Housing Tenure		
Owner-Occupied	66.2%	76.6%
Renter-Occupied	33.8%	23.4%
Labor Force Participation (16 and older)		
Total Population	77.2%	76.0%
Men	85.9%	84.7%
• Women	68.6%	67.7%
All Parents in Household	FO 20/	/ 2 A9/
<ul> <li>Families with Children Under 6</li> </ul>	58.3%	62.0%
<ul> <li>Families with Children 6 to 17</li> </ul>	71.7%	70.5%

Sources: Loudoun County Department of Planning & Zoning U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2013 American Community Survey

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# Commuting Patterns

#### Workers in Leesburg

Commute From	
Leesburg	15.7%
<ul> <li>Elsewhere in Loudoun County</li> </ul>	31.8%
<ul> <li>Elsewhere in Northern Virginia</li> </ul>	19.9%
<ul> <li>Northern Shenandoah Valley</li> </ul>	7.0%
<ul> <li>Maryland</li> </ul>	7.2%
West Virginia	6.2%
All Other Locations	12.1%

#### Leesburg Residents

Leesburg Mesidents	
Commute To	
Leesburg	11.9%
<ul> <li>Elsewhere in Loudoun County</li> </ul>	24.9%
<ul> <li>Elsewhere in Northern Virginia</li> </ul>	38.9%
<ul> <li>Maryland</li> </ul>	6.2%
<ul> <li>Washington DC</li> </ul>	4.0%
<ul> <li>Northern Shenandoah Valley</li> </ul>	1.2%
West Virginia	0.5%
All Other Locations	12.4%
Means of Transportation to Work	
Drove Alone	74.1%
<ul> <li>Carpooled</li> </ul>	9.7%
Public Transit	5.9%
Other Transportation	4.3%
<ul> <li>Worked at Home</li> </ul>	6.1%
Average Commute (Minutes)	31.2

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2011 LED (Primary Jobs) and 2010-2012 ACS

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## Labor Market Statistics

#### Labor Force & Unemployment

April 2014	Loudoun	Annual	Northern	Annual
	County	Change	Virginia*	Change
Civilian Labor Force Unemployment Rate	196,788	+2.2% 0%	1,578,823 3.8%	+1.9%

<sup>\*</sup>Virginia portion of Washington DC MSA

#### Local At-Place Employment & Wages

4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter 2013	Loudoun County	Annual Change	Northern Virginia*	Annual Change
# of Employers	10,114	+0.5%	81,453	-0.5%
Local Employment	148,378	+3.0%	1,303,687	+0.4%
Average Weekly Wages	\$1,190	+1.6%	\$1,350	+8.5%

<sup>\*</sup>Virginia portion of the Washington DC MSA

#### Educational Attainment (Age 25 & Older)\*\*

	Town of Leesburg	Loudoun County	Washington DC MSA
High School Graduate or higher	87.0%	93.6%	90.0%
Bachelor's Degree or higher	47.6%	57.0%	47.6%
Graduate or Professional Degree	17.6%	22.9%	22.8%

<sup>\*\*2010-2012</sup> American Community Survey

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau; Virginia Employment Commission

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# Major Employers, 2014

#### Private Employers, 500 to 1,000 employees:

Company	Sector
Loudoun Medical Group	Healthcare
Wegmans	Retail

#### Private Employers, 100 to 250 employees:

Company	Sector
Best Buy	Retail
Costco	Retail
Giant Food (two locations)	Retail
Hogan & Sons	Automotive Repair
Home Depot	Retail
Host Marriott Services	Food Service
K2M	Research & Development
Kohl's	Retail
Loudoun Long Term Care	Healthcare
Rehau	Research & Development
R×Ally	Pharmaceutical Services
Southern Electric	Construction
Target	Retail
Walmart	Retail

#### **Public Employers:**

Company	# of Employees	
Loudoun County	2,000 - 2,500	
Loudoun County Public Schools	1,500 — 2,000	
Federal Aviation Administration	500 - 1,000	
Town of Leesburg	250 – 500	
Commonwealth of Virginia	100 – 250	
U.S. Postal Service	100 – 250	

Updated: July, 2014

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# Office Market July 2014

• Class A	Office Properties by Class	# of Buildings	Square Footage
<ul> <li>Class B         <ul> <li>Class C/Mixed Use</li> <li>Flex</li> <li>P</li></ul></li></ul>	•	The second secon	_
<ul> <li>Class C/Mixed Use</li> <li>Flex</li> <li>Flex</li> <li>Total</li> <li>250</li> <li>2,408,673</li> <li>Office Properties by Location</li> <li>Historic Downtown (Mixed Use)</li> <li>Inside Bypass</li> <li>Outside Bypass, East</li> <li>Outside Bypass, East</li> <li>Airport</li> <li>Class A</li> <li>Class B</li> <li>Class B</li> <li>Class C/Mixed Use</li> <li>Flex</li> <li>Class A</li> <li>Class B</li> <li>Class A</li> <li>Class B</li> <li>Class A</li> <li>Flex</li> <li>Total Square Feet</li> <li>Class A</li> <li>Class B</li> <li>Class B</li> <li>Class B</li> <li>Class B</li> <li>Class B</li> <li>Class B</li> <li>Class C/Mixed Use</li> <li>Class C/Mixed Use</li> <li>Class C/Mixed Use</li> <li>Class B</li> <li>Class C/Mixed Use</li> <li>Class B</li> <li>Class C/Mixed Use</li> <li>Class C/Mixed Use</li> <li>Class C/Mixed Use</li> <li>Hill 21,076</li> <li>Flex</li> <li>Class B</li> <li>Agagest</li> <li>Largest</li> <li>Class B</li> <li>Class B</li> <li>Class C/Mixed Use</li> <li>Class B (full service)</li> <li>\$23.00</li> <li>\$30.00</li> <li>Class B (full service)</li> <li>\$9.50</li> <li>\$28.00</li> <li>Class C (triple net)</li> <li>Flex (triple net)</li> <li>\$10.00</li> <li>\$12.00</li> </ul>			
• Flex  Total  250  2,408,673   Office Properties by Location  • Historic Downtown (Mixed Use) • Inside Bypass • Outside Bypass, East • Airport  Vacancy Rates  • Class A • Class B • Class C/Mixed Use • Flex  Available Lease Spaces  • Class A • Class B • Class C/Mixed Use • Class B • Class C/Mixed Use • Class B • Class C/Mixed Use • Flex			
Total         250         2,408,673           Office Properties by Location           • Historic Downtown (Mixed Use)         198         875,000           • Inside Bypass         36         654,000           • Outside Bypass, East         17         578,000           • Airport         4         302,000           Vacancy Rates           • Class A         22.3%           • Class B         15.4 %           • Class C/Mixed Use         2.5%           • Flex         17.2%           Available Lease Spaces         # of Spaces*         Total Square Feet           • Class A         47         168,979           • Class B         84         94,201           • Class C/Mixed Use         11         21,076           • Flex         12         60,350           *some spaces can be divided           Lease Space Size Ranges         Smallest         Largest           • Class B         81         22,000           • Class C/Mixed Use         740         2,900           • Flex         2,000         18,614           Lease Rate Ranges*         Low         High <td< th=""><th></th><th></th><th>· ·</th></td<>			· ·
Office Properties by Location           • Historic Downtown (Mixed Use)         198         875,000           • Inside Bypass         36         654,000           • Outside Bypass, East         17         578,000           • Airport         4         302,000           Vacancy Rates           • Class A         22.3%           • Class B         15.4 %           • Class C/Mixed Use         2.5%           • Flex         17.2%           Available Lease Spaces         # of Spaces*         Total Square Feet           • Class A         47         168,979           • Class B         84         94,201           • Class C/Mixed Use         11         21,076           • Flex         12         60,350           *some spaces can be divided           Lease Space Size Ranges         Smallest         Largest           • Class B         81         22,000           • Class C/Mixed Use         740         2,900           • Flex         2,000         18,614           Lease Ranges*         Low         High           • Class B (full service)         \$23.00         \$30.00           <		250	
<ul> <li>Historic Downtown (Mixed Use)</li> <li>Inside Bypass</li> <li>Outside Bypass, East</li> <li>Outside Bypass, East</li> <li>Airport</li> <li>Vacancy Rates</li> <li>Class A</li> <li>Class B</li> <li>Class C/Mixed Use</li> <li>Flex</li> <li>Class A</li> <li>Class B</li> <li>Class B</li> <li>Flex</li> <li>Total Square Feet</li> <li>Class A</li> <li>Class B</li> <li>Class B</li> <li>Class B</li> <li>Class B</li> <li>Class C/Mixed Use</li> <li>Class B</li> <li>Class B</li> <li>Class B</li> <li>Class C/Mixed Use</li> <li>Flex</li> <li>Total Square Feet</li> <li>Class C/Mixed Use</li> <li>I1</li> <li>21,076</li> <li>Flex</li> <li>I2</li> <li>60,350</li> <li>Flex</li> <li>Class A</li> <li>Class B</li> <li>Class C/Mixed Use</li> <li>Class B</li> <li>Class C/Mixed Use</li> <li>Flex</li> <li>Class A (full service)</li> <li>\$23.00</li> <li>\$30.00</li> <li>Class B (full service)</li> <li>\$9.50</li> <li>\$28.00</li> <li>Class C (triple net)</li> <li>Flex (triple net)</li> <li>Flex (triple net)</li> </ul>	l otal	250	2,400,073
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• Outside Bypass, East         17         578,000           • Airport         4         302,000           Vacancy Rates           • Class A         22.3%           • Class B         15.4 %           • Class C/Mixed Use         2.5%           • Flex         17.2%           Available Lease Spaces         # of Spaces*         Total Square Feet           • Class A         47         168,979           • Class B         84         94,201           • Class C/Mixed Use         11         21,076           • Flex         12         60,350           *some spaces can be divided           Lease Space Size Ranges         Smallest         Largest           • Class A         904         25,500           • Class B         81         22,000           • Class C/Mixed Use         740         2,900           • Flex         2,000         18,614           Lease Rate Ranges*         Low         High           • Class A (full service)         \$23.00         \$30.00           • Class C (triple net)         \$8.00         \$20.00           • Flex (triple net)         \$10.00         \$12.00  <	<ul> <li>Historic Downtown (Mixed Use)</li> </ul>	198	
Vacancy Rates         4         302,000           • Class A         22.3%           • Class B         15.4 %           • Class C/Mixed Use         2.5%           • Flex         17.2%           Available Lease Spaces         # of Spaces*         Total Square Feet           • Class A         47         168,979           • Class B         84         94,201           • Class C/Mixed Use         11         21,076           • Flex         12         60,350           *some spaces can be divided           Lease Space Size Ranges         Smallest         Largest           • Class A         904         25,500           • Class B         81         22,000           • Class C/Mixed Use         740         2,900           • Flex         2,000         18,614           Lease Rate Ranges*         Low         High           • Class B (full service)         \$23.00         \$30.00           • Class C (triple net)         \$8.00         \$20.00           • Flex (triple net)         \$10.00         \$12.00	<ul> <li>Inside Bypass</li> </ul>		
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• Class B       15.4 %         • Class C/Mixed Use       2.5%         • Flex       17.2%         Available Lease Spaces       # of Spaces*       Total Square Feet         • Class A       47       168,979         • Class B       84       94,201         • Class C/Mixed Use       11       21,076         • Flex       12       60,350         *some spaces can be divided         Lease Space Size Ranges       Smallest       Largest         • Class A       904       25,500         • Class B       81       22,000         • Class C/Mixed Use       740       2,900         • Flex       2,000       18,614         Lease Rate Ranges*       Low       High         • Class A (full service)       \$23.00       \$30.00         • Class B (full service)       \$9.50       \$28.00         • Class C (triple net)       \$8.00       \$20.00         • Flex (triple net)       \$10.00       \$12.00	<u>-</u>		22 3%
• Class C/Mixed Use       2.5%         • Flex       17.2%         Available Lease Spaces       # of Spaces*       Total Square Feet         • Class A       47       168,979         • Class B       84       94,201         • Class C/Mixed Use       11       21,076         • Flex       12       60,350         *some spaces can be divided         Lease Space Size Ranges       Smallest       Largest         • Class A       904       25,500         • Class B       81       22,000         • Class C/Mixed Use       740       2,900         • Flex       2,000       18,614         Lease Rate Ranges*       Low       High         • Class A (full service)       \$23.00       \$30.00         • Class B (full service)       \$9.50       \$28.00         • Class C (triple net)       \$8.00       \$20.00         • Flex (triple net)       \$10.00       \$12.00			
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<ul> <li>Class A         <ul> <li>Class B</li> <li>Class C/Mixed Use</li> <li>Flex</li> </ul> </li> <li>Lease Space Size Ranges</li> <li>Class A         <ul> <li>Smallest</li> <li>Largest</li> </ul> </li> <li>Class B         <ul> <li>Class B</li> <li>Class C/Mixed Use</li> <li>Flex</li> </ul> </li> <li>Lease Rate Ranges*         <ul> <li>Low</li> <li>High</li> </ul> </li> <li>Class B (full service)</li> <li>Class B (full service)</li> <li>Class C (triple net)</li> <li>Sa.00</li> <li>\$23.00</li> <li>\$28.00</li> <li>\$20.00</li> <li>\$12.00</li> </ul>	- TIEX		
<ul> <li>Class B         <ul> <li>Class C/Mixed Use</li> <li>Flex</li> <li>Class C/Mixed Use</li> <li>Flex</li> </ul> </li> <li>*some spaces can be divided</li> <li>Lease Space Size Ranges</li> <li>Class A         <ul> <li>904</li> <li>25,500</li> </ul> </li> <li>Class B         <ul> <li>81</li> <li>22,000</li> </ul> </li> <li>Class C/Mixed Use         <ul> <li>740</li> <li>2,900</li> </ul> </li> <li>Flex</li> <li>Low</li> <li>High</li> <li>Class A (full service)</li> <li>Class B (full service)</li> <li>Class B (full service)</li> <li>S23.00</li> <li>\$30.00</li> <li>Class C (triple net)</li> <li>S8.00</li> <li>\$20.00</li> </ul> <li>Flex (triple net)</li> <li>\$10.00</li> <li>\$12.00</li>	Available Lease Spaces	# of Spaces*	<b>Total Square Feet</b>
<ul> <li>Class C/Mixed Use</li> <li>Flex</li> <li>Flex</li> <li>Lease Space Size Ranges</li> <li>Class A</li> <li>Class B</li> <li>Class C/Mixed Use</li> <li>Flex</li> <li>Flex</li> <li>Largest</li> <li>Largest</li> <li>Class B</li> <li>Class C/Mixed Use</li> <li>Flex</li> <li>Low</li> <li>High</li> <li>Class A (full service)</li> <li>Class B (full service)</li> <li>Class B (full service)</li> <li>Class B (full service)</li> <li>Class C (triple net)</li> <li>Flex (triple net)</li> <li>Flex (triple net)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Class A</li> </ul>	47	*
Flex   12   60,350	<ul> <li>Class B</li> </ul>		
Lease Space Size Ranges         Smallest         Largest           • Class A         904         25,500           • Class B         81         22,000           • Class C/Mixed Use         740         2,900           • Flex         2,000         18,614           Lease Rate Ranges*         Low         High           • Class A (full service)         \$23.00         \$30.00           • Class B (full service)         \$9.50         \$28.00           • Class C (triple net)         \$8.00         \$20.00           • Flex (triple net)         \$10.00         \$12.00	<ul> <li>Class C/Mixed Use</li> </ul>		
Lease Space Size Ranges         Smallest         Largest           • Class A         904         25,500           • Class B         81         22,000           • Class C/Mixed Use         740         2,900           • Flex         2,000         18,614           Lease Rate Ranges*         Low         High           • Class A (full service)         \$23.00         \$30.00           • Class B (full service)         \$9.50         \$28.00           • Class C (triple net)         \$8.00         \$20.00           • Flex (triple net)         \$10.00         \$12.00	• Flex	12	60,350
<ul> <li>Class A</li> <li>Class B</li> <li>Class C/Mixed Use</li> <li>Flex</li> <li>Lease Rate Ranges*</li> <li>Class A (full service)</li> <li>Class B (full service)</li> <li>Class B (full service)</li> <li>Class C (triple net)</li> <li>Flex (triple net)</li> </ul>		*some spaces can be divided	
<ul> <li>Class B</li> <li>Class C/Mixed Use</li> <li>Flex</li> <li>Low</li> <li>High</li> <li>Class A (full service)</li> <li>Class B (full service)</li> <li>Class B (full service)</li> <li>Class C (triple net)</li> <li>Flex (triple net)</li> <li>S10.00</li> <li>\$22.00</li> <li>\$23.00</li> <li>\$23.00</li> <li>\$23.00</li> <li>\$23.00</li> <li>\$23.00</li> <li>\$23.00</li> <li>\$23.00</li> <li>\$20.00</li> <li>\$10.00</li> <li>\$10.00</li> </ul>	Lease Space Size Ranges	Smallest	Largest
<ul> <li>Class C/Mixed Use</li> <li>Flex</li> <li>Lease Rate Ranges*</li> <li>Class A (full service)</li> <li>Class B (full service)</li> <li>Class C (triple net)</li> <li>Flex (triple net)</li> <li>Thigh</li> <li>2,000</li> <li>High</li> <li>\$23.00</li> <li>\$30.00</li> <li>\$23.00</li> <li>\$23.00</li> <li>\$23.00</li> <li>\$23.00</li> <li>\$23.00</li> <li>\$20.00</li> <li>\$10.00</li> <li>\$10.00</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Class A</li> </ul>	904	· ·
• Flex       2,000       18,614         Lease Rate Ranges*       Low       High         • Class A (full service)       \$23.00       \$30.00         • Class B (full service)       \$9.50       \$28.00         • Class C (triple net)       \$8.00       \$20.00         • Flex (triple net)       \$10.00       \$12.00	<ul> <li>Class B</li> </ul>		
Lease Rate Ranges*         Low         High           • Class A (full service)         \$23.00         \$30.00           • Class B (full service)         \$9.50         \$28.00           • Class C (triple net)         \$8.00         \$20.00           • Flex (triple net)         \$10.00         \$12.00	<ul> <li>Class C/Mixed Use</li> </ul>	•	
<ul> <li>Class A (full service)</li> <li>Class B (full service)</li> <li>Class C (triple net)</li> <li>Flex (triple net)</li> <li>\$23.00</li> <li>\$9.50</li> <li>\$28.00</li> <li>\$20.00</li> <li>\$10.00</li> <li>\$12.00</li> </ul>	• Flex	2,000	18,614
<ul> <li>Class B (full service)</li> <li>Class C (triple net)</li> <li>Flex (triple net)</li> <li>\$9.50</li> <li>\$28.00</li> <li>\$20.00</li> <li>\$10.00</li> <li>\$12.00</li> </ul>	Lease Rate Ranges*	Low	High
<ul> <li>Class B (full service)</li> <li>Class C (triple net)</li> <li>Flex (triple net)</li> <li>\$9.50</li> <li>\$28.00</li> <li>\$20.00</li> <li>\$10.00</li> <li>\$12.00</li> </ul>	Class A (full service)	\$23.00	\$30.00
<ul> <li>Class C (triple net)</li> <li>Flex (triple net)</li> <li>\$8.00</li> <li>\$10.00</li> <li>\$12.00</li> </ul>	, ,	-	
• Flex (triple net) \$10.00 \$12.00	,	\$8.00	\$20.00
· · /	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	\$10.00	\$12.00
1 Jirect Kent	*Direct Rent		

Sources: CoStar; Loudoun County Land Management Information System

Information does not include office spaces offered in shared or "Executive Suite" arrangements.

the hometown of the 21st century

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# Retail Market: Shopping Centers

	# of Properties	Square Footage
Shopping Centers by Class		
Convenience Center	12	193,000
Neighborhood Center	6	745,000
Community Center	3	675,000
Lifestyle Center	I	553,000
Regional Center	2	586,000
Super Regional Center	l	494,000
Total	25	3,246,550
Shopping Centers by Location*		
Downtown	3	80,548
Inside Bypass	14	768,994
Outside Bypass	8	2,397,008
Shopping Centers by Year Built		
• 2000 to Present	7	1,324,000
• 1980-1999	14	1,769,000
• Prior to 1980	3	153,000
Vacancy Rate (June 2014)		4.9%
Direct Lease Rate (Triple Net) Range**		
• Low		\$12.00
• High		\$32.50
Available Spaces (including Sublet)		
Number of Spaces		52
Total Square Feet Vacant		159,494
Largest Space		18,979
		800
Smallest Space		800

<sup>\*</sup>This information does not include retail spaces in mixed-used buildings in the Historic Downtown.

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<sup>\*\*</sup>Many centers withhold their lease rates.

# Housing Market

Housing Units by Type	
Single Family Home	6,703
<ul> <li>Townhomes/Duplexes</li> </ul>	4,184
Multifamily	4,507
Total	15,394
2013 Average Sales Price*	
<ul> <li>Condo – New</li> </ul>	(no sales)
<ul> <li>Condo – Resale</li> </ul>	\$176,750
<ul> <li>Townhome – New</li> </ul>	\$392,317
<ul> <li>Townhome – Resale</li> </ul>	\$312,255
<ul> <li>Single Family Home – New</li> </ul>	\$684,989
<ul> <li>Single Family Home – Resale</li> </ul>	\$459,909
Number of Units Sold:	
• New	105
• Resale	838
Apartments*	
<ul> <li>Number of Complexes</li> </ul>	9
Total Units	1,772
<ul> <li>Vacancy Rate (June 2013)</li> </ul>	3.7%
<ul> <li>Average Starting Monthly Rental Rates:</li> </ul>	
• 2 bed, 2 bath	\$1, <del>4</del> 88
<ul> <li>I bed, I bath</li> </ul>	\$1,237

<sup>\*</sup>Market rate only

Sources: Town of Leesburg Executive Department

Loudoun County Land Management Information System

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# Commercial Real Estate Brokers

Brown-Carrera Realty LLC	
11 Loudoun Street SE, Leesburg VA 20175	Sales & leasing
703-777-0007 • <u>www.browncarrera.com</u>	Property management
	, ,
Carter Braxton Preferred Properties	
11 Loudoun Street SW, Leesburg VA 20175	Leasing
703-777-7772 • www.carterbraxtonproperties.com	• Investment properties
	Commercial
Cassidy Turley	
6903 Rockledge Drive, Suite 900, Bethesda, MD 20817	• Leasing
301-424-2100 <u>www.cassidyturley.com</u>	• Sales
	Tenant Representation
	<ul> <li>Property Management</li> </ul>
Clark Realty Capital, LLC	
4401 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 600, Arlington, VA 22203	Sales & leasing
703-294-4540 • <u>www.clarkrealty.com</u>	<ul> <li>Investor, landlord &amp; tenant</li> </ul>
	representation
Devine Commercial	
I Loudoun Street SW, Leesburg VA 20175	Sales & leasing
703-771-1918 • www.devinecommercial.com	<ul> <li>Investor, landlord &amp; tenant</li> </ul>
	representation
Federal Realty	
1626 E. Jefferson Street, Rockville, MD 20852	Sales & leasing
301-998-8100 • www.federalrealty.com	Investor, landlord & tenant
The state of the s	representation
	1 cpi escinación
Landmark Commercial Real Estate	
1856 Old Reston Avenue, Suite 301, Reston, VA 20190	Sales & leasing
703-437-1440 • <u>www.landmarkcre.com</u>	<ul> <li>Investor, landlord &amp; tenant</li> </ul>
	representation
	Property management
Landmark Group Commercial	
30 Catoctin Circle, Suite F, Leesburg VA 20175	Sales & leasing
703-861-1451	<ul> <li>Investor, landlord &amp; tenant</li> </ul>
	representation
Lansdowne Real Estate Company	
Lansdowne Real Estate Company	a Color 9 Jacoina
19415 Deerfield Ave, Ste 301, Lansdowne VA 20176	Sales & leasing     Investor landland & topont
703-858-9133 • <u>www.lansdownerealestateco.com</u>	Investor, landlord & tenant     representation
	representation

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#### **Morrissey Commercial** 308 Gaines Ct SW, Leesburg VA 20175 Sales & leasing 703-431-1340 • www.morrisseycre.com • Investor, landlord & tenant representation NAI/KLNB 8027 Leesburg Pike, Suite 300, Vienna, VA 22182 • Sales & leasing, Land development 571-382-2061 • http://naiklnb.com/broker/kevin-j-goeller/ • Investor, landlord & tenant representation **Next Realty** 1750 Old Meadow Road, Suite 250, McLean, VA 22102 Sales & leasing 703-442-4500 • <u>www.nextrealty.com</u> • Investor, landlord & tenant representation **Paladin Real Estate** 201F Royal Street SE, Leesburg, VA 20175 • Sales & leasing 703-777-8123 • <u>www.palre.com</u> • Investor, landlord & tenant representation Pangle & Associates 109 South King Street, Leesburg, VA 20175 Sales & leasing 703-930-4872 • www.pangleandassociates.com • Investor, landlord & tenant **Tetra Partners** 11450 Baron Cameron Boulevard, Reston, VA 20190 Sales & leasing 703-796-1800 • www.tetrapartners.com • Investor, landlord & tenant representation Uniwest Group 8191 Strawberry Lane, Falls Church, VA 22042 Sales & leasing 703-442-4500 • www.uniwestgroup.com • Investor, landlord & tenant representation

#### Vaaler Real Estate

209 Church Street SE, Leesburg VA 20175	<ul> <li>Sales &amp; leasing</li> </ul>
703-771-1162 • <u>www.vaaler.us</u>	<ul> <li>Investor, landlord &amp; tenant</li> </ul>
	representation
	<ul> <li>Property management</li> </ul>

#### **Verity Commercial, LLC**

11490 Commerce Park Drive, #500, Reston, VA 20170	<ul> <li>Sales &amp; leasing</li> </ul>
703-435-4007 • www.veritycommercial.com	<ul> <li>Investor, landlord &amp; tenant</li> </ul>
	representation
	<ul> <li>Property management</li> </ul>

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# Commercial Lenders

#### **Access National Bank**

300 Fort Evans Road NE, Suite 103 Leesburg VA 20175 703.871.2100 • <a href="https://www.accessnationalbank.com">www.accessnationalbank.com</a>

Ted Lauer, Senior Vice President & SBA Department Manager 703.871.2104 • <u>tlauer@accessnationalbank.com</u>

Thomas Ciolkosz, Vice President & Business Relationship Manager 703.871.1045 • <u>tciolkosz@accessnationalbank.com</u>

#### **Bank of America**

505 E. Market Street, Leesburg VA 20176 703-771-3850

554 Fort Evans Road NE, Leesburg VA 20176www.bankofamerica.com 703.737.7795

Jeff Austinson, Branch Manager – Market Street 703.771.3850 • jeffery.austinson@bankofamerica.com

Spencer Orme, Branch Manager – Fort Evans Road 703.737.7795 • spencer.orme@bankofamerica.com

#### **BB&T Bank**

101 Catoctin Circle SE, Leesburg VA 20175 703.771.7204 • <a href="https://www.bbandt.com">www.bbandt.com</a>

Channing Jones, Vice President & Small Business Advisor 703.771.7717 • channing.jones@bbandt.com

Faye McKimmey, Branch Manager 703.771.7717 • faye.mckimmey@bbandt.com

#### Cardinal Bank

20 Catoctin Circle SE, Leesburg VA 20175 703.771.3353 • www.cardinalbank.com

Dianne Capilongo, Vice President & Leesburg Office Manager 703.771.3353 • <u>dianne.capilongo@cardinalbank.com</u>

Eileen Kennedy, Senior Vice President, Commercial Lender 571.328.0230 • eileen.kennedy@cardinalbank.com

#### **Capital One Bank**

401 East Market Street, Leesburg VA 20176 703.669.3070• www.capitalone.com

607 Potomac Station Drive NE, Leesburg VA 20176 703.669.2203 • <a href="https://www.capitalone.com">www.capitalone.com</a>

Scott Loftis, Commercial Lender 571.419.4578 • scott.loftis@capitalone.com

#### Citibank

540 E Market Street Leesburg VA 20176 703.779.7056 • www.citicbank.com

Patti Von Bokern, Branch Manager 703.779.7056 • <u>patti.vonbokern@citi.com</u>

#### First Citizens Bank

40 Catoctin Circle NE, Leesburg VA 20176 703.669.9884 • www.firstcitizens.com

Michael Harrison, Senior Vice President, Manager of Business Banking 703.669.9896 • Michael.harrison@firstcitizens.com

Kevin Brown, Vice President, Commercial Banker 703.669.9893 • Kevin.brown@firstcitizens.com

#### John Marshall Bank

842 South King Street, Leesburg VA 20175 703.779.4811 • www.johnmarshallbank.com

Paul Bice, Market Regional President 703.779.4811 • <u>pbice@johnmarshallbank.com</u>

Jim Bowman, Senior Vice President 703.779.4811 • <u>jbowman@johnmarshallbank.com</u>

Tony Twininger, Vice President 703.779.4811 <u>Twininger@johnmarshallbank.com</u>

#### M&T Bank

526 E Market Street, Leesburg VA 20176 703.777.7080 • <u>www.mtb.com</u>

Luke Coates, Branch Manager 703.777.7080 • wcoates@mtb.com

#### Middleburg Bank

106 Catoctin Circle SE, Leesburg VA 20175 703.777.6327 • <a href="https://www.middleburgbank.com">www.middleburgbank.com</a>

538 Fort Evans Road NE, Leesburg VA 20176 703.777.6327 • <a href="https://www.middleburgbank.com">www.middleburgbank.com</a>

Kitty Kearns, Chief Credit Officer

703.777.6327 • kkearns@middleburgbank.com

Jim Maki, Vice President, Senior Vice-President, Commercial Relationship Manager 703.443.1318 • <u>imaki@middleburgbank.com</u>

Cheryl Cook, Assistant Vice-President, Small Business Administration Analyst 703.737.3460 • ccook@middleburgbank.com

#### **PNC Bank**

606 South King Street, Leesburg VA 20175 703.779.8554 • <u>www.pnc.com</u>

William McGowan, Branch Manager 703.779.8554 • william.mcgowan@pnc.com

#### Sandy Spring Bank

I Catoctin Circle NE, Leesburg VA 20176 703.629.4076 • www.sandyspringbank.com

Mark Kennedy, Commercial Relationship Manager 703.319.9000 ext 4143 • markkennedy@sandyspringbank.com

#### **SONAB**ank

I East Market Street, Leesburg VA 20176 703.777.2424 • www.sonabank.com

Erik A. Seppala, AVP/Commercial Lender 703.777.2424 • <a href="mailto:eseppala@sonabank.com">eseppala@sonabank.com</a>

Jossie Arroyo, Regional Manager Banking Officer, Assistant Vice President 703.893.7400 • jarroyo@sonabank.com

#### **Summit Community Bank**

204 Catoctin Circle SE, Leesburg VA 20175 703.777.6556 • www.mysummit.com

Debbi Alexander, AVP Branch Manager 703.777.6556 • <u>dalexander@summitfgi.com</u>

#### SunTrust Bank

1007 Edwards Ferry Road NE, Leesburg VA 20176 703.737.0649 • www.suntrust.com

Rupinder Tiwana, Vice President & Branch Manager 703.737.0649 • rupinder.tiwana@suntrust.com

#### **TD Bank**

552 East Market Street, Leesburg VA 20176 703.443.1085 • <a href="https://www.tdbank.com">www.tdbank.com</a>

Mari Seliciano, Assistant Store Manager 703.443.1085 • joann.livecchia@td.com

#### **United Bank**

531 East Market Street, Leesburg VA 201765 703.779.3531 • www.bankatunited.com

Sean Biehl, Branch Manager 703.779.3531 • sean.biehl@bankwithunited.com

#### Wells Fargo

30 Catoctin Circle SE, Leesburg VA 20175 703.777.5353 • www.wellsfargo.com

1616 Village Market Boulevard SE, Leesburg VA 20175 703.777.4630 • <a href="https://www.wellsfargo.com">www.wellsfargo.com</a>

Chamicka Pollock, Vice President/District Manager 703.777.5353 • <a href="mailto:chamicka.pollock@wellsfargo.com">chamicka.pollock@wellsfargo.com</a>

701 East Market Street, Leesburg VA 20176 703.771.1992 • www.wellsfargo.com

# Business, Professional & Occupational Licenses

Most businesses located in the Town of Leesburg are required to have a Town of Leesburg business, professional & occupational license (BPOL), including home-based businesses. To obtain your business license, visit the Town of Leesburg Finance Department on the first floor of Town Hall, located at 25 West Market Street. If you have any questions, please call the Finance Department at 703-771-2701.

The tax associated with this license is either a percentage of gross receipts or a flat rate. Businesses that are normally subject to the tax rate based on gross receipts, but have less than \$50,000 in gross receipts pay a minimum fee of \$20.00. When you first apply for your business license, you will pay estimated taxes based on the gross receipts that you expect to generate through the end of the calendar year.

#### 2014 BPOL rates on gross receipts are:

Amusements	\$0.25 per \$100 of gross receipts
Building Contractors and Trades	\$0.10 per \$100 of gross receipts
Business Service Occupations	\$0.20 per \$100 of gross receipts
Hotel/Motel/B&B	\$0.23 per \$100 of gross receipts
Massage Therapy	\$0.20 per \$100 of gross receipts
Money Lenders	\$0.16 per \$100 of gross receipts
Personal Service Occupations	\$0.20 per \$100 of gross receipts
Professional, Specialized Businesses	\$0.20 per \$100 of gross receipts
Public Utilities	\$0.50 per \$100 of gross receipts
Repair Service Occupations	\$0.15 per \$100 of gross receipts
Retail Merchants	\$0.10 per \$100 of gross receipts
Vending Machine Merchants	\$0.10 per \$100 of gross receipts
Wholesale Merchants	\$0.075 per \$100 of gross purchases

#### 2014 BPOL flat tax rates are:

Building/Savings & Loan Associations	\$50 annually
Cable Television Companies	\$25 annually
Fortune Tellers	\$500 annually
Peddlers & Itinerant Vendors	\$250 annually
Alcoholic Beverages (beer & wine) (based on type of license)	\$25-\$75 annually
Mixed Beverage Licenses (based on # of seats)	\$200-\$500 annually
Coin Operated Amusement Machines (based of # of machines)	\$100-\$200 annually

#### **Renewals**

In late March/early April each year, business license renewal forms are sent to all businesses. When submitting the renewal form, businesses state their gross receipts for the previous year and include the appropriate amount of tax due. Businesses renewing for the first time should contact the Finance Department to determine the additional amount due for the prior year, if any. Business license renewals are due by May Ist of each year.

Updated: July, 2014

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### 2014 Business Taxes

The following is a summary of the taxes to which businesses located within the Town of Leesburg are subject.

#### ♦ State Income Tax

Any corporation having income from Virginia sources is required to file and report that income annually. The income tax rate is 6% of computed Virginia taxable income.

#### ♦ Business, Professional & Occupational License Tax

Most businesses, including home based businesses, are subject to a gross receipts tax. The tax rate depends upon the type of business, but ranges from 0.10% to 0.25%. A separate fact sheet provides more detailed information.

#### ♦ Real Property Tax

Businesses located within the Town of Leesburg pay real property taxes to both Loudoun County and the town. Real property tax rates for 2014 are listed below. Rates are per \$100 of assessed fair market value.

Town of Leesburg Loudoun County	\$0.183 \$1.155
Total	\$1.338

#### **♦** Tangible Personal Property Tax

The tax on tangible personal property (manufacturing equipment and tools, office equipment, computers, etc.) is based on the original total capitalized cost and the age of the property. Property is taxed at 50% of cost the first year and is reduced 10% each year thereafter until a minimum of 10% is reached. 2014 tax rates (per \$100 of valuation) are listed below.

	Nominal Tax Rate
Town of Leesburg	\$1.00
Loudoun County	\$4.20
Total	\$5.20

#### ♦ Bank Franchise Tax

Banks located within the Town pay a franchise tax of \$0.80 per \$100 of net capital.

#### ♦ Consumer Taxes

Consumer taxes which business located in Leesburg may pay or collect include Sales & Use Tax (6% combined state & local rate), Meals Tax (3.5%), Hotel Tax (6%), Telecommunications Tax (16% on the first \$300 of monthly charges), and Utilities Tax (up to \$48 per month on electrical and natural gas service).

#### **♦** Inventory Tax

Manufacturers' inventory is not subject to taxation in Virginia. Neither the Town of Leesburg nor Loudoun County imposes a capital tax on merchants.

Updated: July, 2014



# Guidelines for Business Special Events

#### **Business Assistance Provided:**

#### Ribbon Cutting Ceremonies

At your request, Economic Development staff will coordinate the attendance of Town officials, issue a media alert, post the event on the Town website, provide ribbon and ceremonial scissors, and take pictures for distribution to the media after the event.

#### Media & Promotional Assistance

Today you have many more options to attract attention to your business than traditional signs and print ads. Let our Economic Development staff help you identify ways to reach your existing and potential customers with news of your special event.

#### Permit Requirements & Restrictions:

Business Special Events such as grand openings and special sales events related to a specific business that involve activities outside the typical boundaries (physical or functional) of the business require a zoning permit, along with a scaled site plan showing the activity area, temporary structures, displays and signs. A Business Special Event shall be permitted three (3) times per year for a three (3) day period per event. There is a \$50.00 fee. Typically, the permit can be issued at the time of application. The zoning permit for a Business Special Event will cover the following items, as applicable:

#### Temporary Signs

Banners, up to 24 square feet in size, are allowed. Two real estate-style signs, subject to size restrictions, or A-frame signs no larger than 5 square feet each are permitted as well. A separate temporary sign permit is not required if the signs are included as part of the Business Special Event. Temporary signs shall be located on-site, and may not be placed in the public right-of-way or in locations that create sight distance hazards for motorists.

#### Tents & Moonbounces

Tents, moon bounces and other similar inflated play structures are permitted only in association with a Business Special Event, regardless of size or how long the items will be installed. The application does require a site plan. Site plans for most commercial buildings in the Town are on file; typically we can make a copy of the site plan at the time of application, determine the item's proposed location, and issue the permit on the spot. In the event that the site plan is not on file, please submit your application at least 10 business days in advance in order to allow staff the time to review the application. Tents that are 400 sq ft and larger require approval of the Loudoun County Fire Marshall.

#### Flags, Pennants and Streamers

These items are subject to the same regulations as signs, and must be located on-site and may not be placed in the public right-of-way or in locations that create sight distance hazards for motorists and only in association with a Business Special Event.

#### Additional Notes

Events must be held between 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m.. Additional use restrictions may apply or coordination with other Town Departments may be required. For more information or assistance, please contact either the Economic Development Office at (703) 737-7019 or the Planning & Zoning Department at (703) 771-2765.

Updated: July, 2014

Town of Leesburg Economic Development 25 West Market Street • Leesburg, Virginia 20175 (703) 737-7019 • www.leesburgva.com



# Water e3 Sewer Availability Fees

Water and sewer availability fees purchase capacity with the town's water and sewer system. They are one-time fees by which the town recovers the cost of the infrastructure needed to provide water and sewer service. These fees are paid when a building first receives water & sewer service, so if you are going into an existing or previously occupied space, the only time you will have to pay availability fees is if your business has a higher water use than the previous occupant. In those cases, you will pay only the difference between the availability fees for the previous and new uses. The exception to this requirement is if you are locating your business in the Historic District, in which case you will pay additional availability fees only if your business requires larger water and/or sewer connections than the existing ones.

Availability fees are calculated using average daily usages based on historical usages by various types of businesses. Current commercial categories and estimated daily usages are:

Office Retail Industrial/Warehouse Hotels Hair Salons Restaurants:

Full serviceLimited service/fast food

Deli/Carry-outCoffee shops

33 gallons per day per 1,000 square feet\*
36 gallons per day per 1,000 square feet\*
10 gallons per day per 1,000 square feet\*
90 gallons per day per room\*

80 gallons per day per styling chair\*

10 gallons per seat per meal per day\*
8 gallons per seat per meal per day\*
36 gallons per day per 1,000 square feet\*
890 gallons per day per 1,000 square feet\*

\*The minimum availability fee is \$11,975.

FY 2015 water & sewer availability fees are:

\$13.33 per gallon per day for water service \$20.20 per gallon per day for sewer service \$33.53 total per gallon per day

For more information, contact the Town of Leesburg Department of Utilities at (703) 771-2762.

Updated: July, 2014

Leesburg
the hometown of the 21st century



# Have some news to share?

# Let us help you celebrate your success!

You pick the date ed the time.

### We will:

- Post the event on the town website, Facebook and Twitter
- Notify the local media
- Invite town elected & appointed officials
- Provide the ribbon & ceremonial scissors
- Take pictures
- Help you celebrate!

# For more information, contact:



# AMERICA'S BEST

These places score high on many of the qualities that families look for . in a hometown. The icons show where each town stands out.



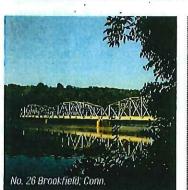












- SHARON, MASS. pop. 17,844
- LOUISVILLE, COLO, 18,924
- VIENNA, VA. 18, 285
- CHANHASSEN, MINN. 23,685
- SHERWOOD, ORE. 18,736
- BERKELEY HEIGHTS, N.J. 13,345
- MASON, OHIO 31.761
- PAPILLION, NEB. 19,837
- APEX, N.C. 40,205
- WEST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP, PA. 22,421
- WESTFORD, MASS, 22,407
- PARKER, COLO. 47,790
- MONTVILLE, N.J. 21,715
- FARMINGTON, UTAH 19,135
- SHREWSBURY, MASS. 36,048
- HILLSBOROUGH, N.J. 38,828
- APPLE VALLEY, MINN. 49,863
- WESTFIELD, IND. 31.857
- NEWCASTLE, WASH, 10,723
- THE COLONY, TEXAS 39.055
- SAVAGE, MINN, 27711
- WAUKEE, IOWA 14.945
- MERRIMACK, N.H. 25,686



- DRAPER, UTAH 43,974
  - BROOKFIELD, CONN. 18,788
- FARMINGTON, MICH. 10,378
- MENOMONEE FALLS, WIS. 35,974
- LINDON, UTAH 10,846
- WINDHAM, N.H. 13,599
- LA PALMA, CALIF. 15,878
- COPPELL, TEXAS 39,787
- SUWANEE, GA. 16,002 1
- HORSHAM, PA. 15,094
- LEESBURG, VA. 46.140
- MILL CREEK, WASH, 18,834
- ANKENY, IOWA 46,973
- TWINSBURG, OHIO 18,636
- CHESHIRE, CONN. 29,433
- BALLWIN, MO. 30,523
- MONTGOMERY VILLAGE, MD, 33,052
- SOLON, OHIO 23,012
- EVANS, GA. 30,874 -
- PFLUGERVILLE; TEXAS 49.481
- SPRING HILL, TENN. 30,568
- BUFFALO GROVE, ILL. 41,761
- PELHAM, ALA, 22,297
- PEACHTREE CITY, GA. 34.889
- WALNUT, CALIF. 29,484
- SIMSBURY, CONN. 34,889



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TOP 50: Get all data on housing, jobs, income, schools, crime, and much more for the top towns. Plus ...

VIDEO: Meet residents, see people's homes. and learn about what there is to do around town.

#### **FAN FAVORITES:**

Which town do you think should capture top honors?

#### PHOTO GALLERIES:

See the top-earning towns, the best places for affordable homes, hotspots for job growth, and more.

PHOTOGRAPHS COURTESY OF THE CITIES OF BROOKFIELD AND PARKER



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TWITTER Follow us on Twitter to see news stories about our best places. twitter.com/money



INSTAURAM See photos of our best places and readers' nominations. instagram.com/mybestplaces

Nores: Jobs based on income growth, county unemployment (not seasonally adjusted), and projected job growth. Economy based on purchasing power, foreclosure rale, tax burden, and state's fiscal strength. Housing affordability based on median price to income ratio and average property taxes. Education based on test scores, educational interests and attainment, and percentage based on this stocks, educational interests and attainment, and percentage of klds in public schools, Health based on number of doctors and hospitals in the area and health of residents. Crime based on property and violent crime ratis. Art and letsure based on activities in the town and surrounding area, including movie theaters, museums, green spaces, and sports venues, sourcest OnBoard Informatics, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Moody's, Standard & Poor's, Really Trac, National Conference of State Legislatures, Conference of State Legislatures. Canter on Budget and Policy Priorities, National Cancer Institute, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Gallup, Office on Women's Health



The Magazine for Growing Companies



# THE FASTEST GROWING

(BEST RUN, MOST INNOVATIVE, AND MOST INSPIRING)

# PRIVATE COMPANIES IN AMERICA

\$5.99 U.S./CANADA

SEPTEMBER 2013



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Kevin Knight & Knight Solutions & Three-year growth 1,472.2% & 2012 REVENUE \$16.3 MILLION

# GIVING VETS—BOTH LIVING AND FALLEN—THE RESPECT THEY DESERVE

Kevin Knight imagined a future in the U.S. Army. But when he injured both eyes in a training accident, he chased a different dream—his own business, Knight Solutions—and wound up serving his nation in a different way.

I REMEMBER sitting in a chair in the doctor's office crying. He told me I was blind in my right eye and that I would be of no use to the Army. It was devastating.

Eventually, I graduated from Norfolk State University and then the University of Cincinnati, where I received my master's. I then worked for a number of big companies, like General Motors, that taught me what I needed to know to launch my own business.

I came to see the poor conditions of our military cemeteries when I went to the funeral of my brother-in-law, who was a Vietnam vet. It became my calling to turn those resting places around so that families can have a pleasant experience visiting their loved ones.

I started making connections through the Department of Veterans Affairs. I explained that I wanted to take veterans who have seen action and hire them, give them a place where they would be able to say, "I did not leave my brother behind; I am taking care of him now." I launched Knight Solutions with the help of a mentor who enlightened me on the programs available to service-disabled-veteranowned businesses.

When it comes to military cemeteries, all people think about is Arlington National. But there are more than 100 national cemeteries, some of which aren't kept to the standard they should be.

We're based in Leesburg, Virginia, but we provide cemetery restoration, construction, and grounds maintenance nationwide. Each job lasts about 12 to

18 months. We raise and realign each headstone and replace the sod. There is a standard for working on national cemeteries called the shrine standards, which requires that every headstone stand up straight, like a soldier. Anytime we start a new job, I remind our employees that there is zero tolerance for delivering anything less than that.

When we get a new contract, I call the VA hospital near the cemetery and talk to the veterans' rep to let them know I will be hiring a pool of veterans for the job. We set up a trailer as a base to get started and then move on to the next one. It's like having a mobile command center.

I get veterans who tell me their lives have been forever changed. Not only do they have stable employment with benefits, but they also have a sense of purpose in taking care of the resting place for their fallen brothers and sisters. •

"I did not leave my brother behind; I am taking care of him now."

SCAN THE PAGE TO TOUR A CEMETERY WITH KNIGHT. (Instructions, page 12)

As told to DARREN DAHL © Photogroph by MELISSA GOLDEN





# Among the "Best Places to Live & Launch"

- Forbes Small Business

## A Great Place for Wine Lovers to Retire

- Money Magazine

## One of America's Best Places to Live

- CNN Money

# **#1** in Virginia for Job Seekers

- NerdWallet